

DC Fire & EMS Department Fiscal Year 2005 Annual Report





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Letter from the Chief



As Fire & EMS Chief of the District of Columbia, it is my sincere pleasure to greet you in what are truly historic times. We are not only seeing social and political changes across the globe, we have seen and continue to realize improvements to our quality of life right here at home. I am proud to say the DC Fire & EMS Department is rising to meet the modern challenges of a dynamic industry that include new infectious diseases and terrorism.

The Fire Service has changed dramatically over the last 20 years. The concept of firefighter has changed, too. No longer are firefighters just battling blazes. We are an all-hazards service now, responding to medical emergencies,

technical rescue assignments and hazardous materials calls. Since September 11, 2001, when our nation saw the worst terrorist attacks in history, we realized we have to be prepared for anything. As your first responders, we are better prepared now than ever before.

In the last two years, our ability to respond to critical medical emergencies has been enhanced significantly. In fact, we are getting paramedics and emergency medical technicians to more sick and injured patients faster than ever. Training, not just EMS, but also HazMat and fire suppression, is occurring at unprecedented levels. Our apparatus fleet is in its best shape ever, and we continue to put more new apparatus in service.

We are doing a much better job in service delivery, but much remains to be done. We are constantly monitoring

the pulse of our community, listening to what the concerns are and providing the best possible service. Working with our many partners, we are fulfilling those needs.

The men and women who do this job are a unique breed. Continually committed to the safety of our citizens and guests, they often risk their own lives - 24 hours a day - seven days a week. On behalf of the nearly 2,000 members of the District of Columbia Fire & EMS Department, I proudly present our Fiscal Year 2005 Annual Report.

Sincerely,

Adrian H. Thompson
Fire & EMS Chief



Anthony A. Williams
Mayor, District of Columbia

Edward Reiskin
Deputy Mayor, Public Safety & Justice





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DC Fire/EMS Profile

The District of Columbia Fire & Emergency Medical Services Department (Fire/EMS) is an all-hazards emergency response department operating 33 firehouses and a fireboat station 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. DC Fire/EMS personnel respond to nearly 400 calls for emergency assistance across the District of Columbia every day.

The DC Fire/EMS Department provides services for the 572,000 residents of the District of Columbia and a daytime population of 1.3 to 1.5 million people. The department responds to all 911 calls for emergency medical services, fire suppression, hazardous materials and technical rescues inside the District's 61.4 square miles. Though it is a local agency of the District of Columbia government, the Fire/EMS Department provides the only fire/EMS 911-response services in the District and is responsible for serving federal government facilities, tourists and commuters in addition to residents.

DC Fire/EMS employs a highly trained and flexible workforce, ready to respond to all risks. More than eighty percent of the workforce is fully trained and certified to perform in an all-hazards environment with at least emergency medical, firefighting, and basic special operations skills. On any given day, DC Fire/EMS personnel might provide emergency medical care and transport, extinguish fires, respond for hazardous materials and bomb threat situations, rescue

people who are trapped, and provide support to law enforcement agencies. The DC Fire/EMS Department and personnel must also be prepared at all times to respond to acts of terrorism or natural disasters that may occur in the nation's capital.

In addition to 911-response, the DC Fire/EMS Department works with our local and federal partners to provide emergency medical, hazardous materials and fire coverage for large and small special events in the nation's capital. This includes annual State of the Union Addresses, gatherings on the National Mall, protests, neighborhood celebrations, sporting events, and District of Columbia government functions.



Another major priority for the DC Fire/EMS Department is working to prevent emergencies before they happen by inspecting homes, businesses and other buildings for dangerous conditions, investigating the source and cause of fires, and teaching fire safety skills and CPR to District of Columbia residents.

The DC Fire/EMS Department Operations Division is organized into the Firefighting Division with six battalions, the EMS Division, and the Special Operations Division. Like most major urban jurisdictions, DC Fire/EMS uses a fire-based EMS system for delivery of pre-hospital medical care. All fire apparatus carry EMS medications and equipment and are staffed with at least two firefighter/EMTs and many have a firefighter/paramedic on board. Fire apparatus are routinely dispatched on emergency calls for medical service along with transport units so that high quality EMS care can be delivered to sick or injured people as quickly as possible. Basic Life Support transport is provided by a mix of firefighter/EMT and

single-role EMT staffed ambulances. Advanced Life Support transport is provided by a mix of two-paramedic or one-paramedic and one-EMT staffed Medic Units.

The Services Division includes the Fire Prevention Division, EMS Administration, the Fire/EMS Training Division, Facilities Maintenance, Fleet Maintenance, Risk Management, the Professional Standards Office, and the Medical Services Office.

DC Fire/EMS Department Leadership:

Adrian H. Thompson

Douglas L. Smith, Jr.

William M. FitzGerald

Dr. Amit Wadhwa

Fire/EMS Chief

Assistant Fire Chief Operations

Assistant Fire Chief Services

Medical Director





Fiscal Year 2005 Budget Overview and Major Statistics

Fiscal Year 2005 October 1, 2004 to September 30, 2005

DC Fire/EMS fiscal year 2005 budget
\$151 million

Authorized Employees
2,036

Daily On-Duty Field Strength
325

Front Line Apparatus

Fire/Rescue Resources

Deputy Fire Chief – Firefighting Division
6 Battalion Fire Chiefs
33 Engine Companies
8 are Paramedic Engine Companies at 9/30/05
16 Truck Companies
Deputy Fire Chief – Special Operations Division
Special Operations Battalion Chief
3 Heavy Rescue Squads
Fire Boat Company
Hazardous Materials Unit
Foam Unit
Safety Officer
2 Air Units

EMS Resources

16 ALS Transport Units
18 BLS Transport Units
2 Rapid Response ALS Units
5 EMS Supervisors
3 Preceptor Units (EMS Field Training/Assessment)

Incidents/Responses FY2005

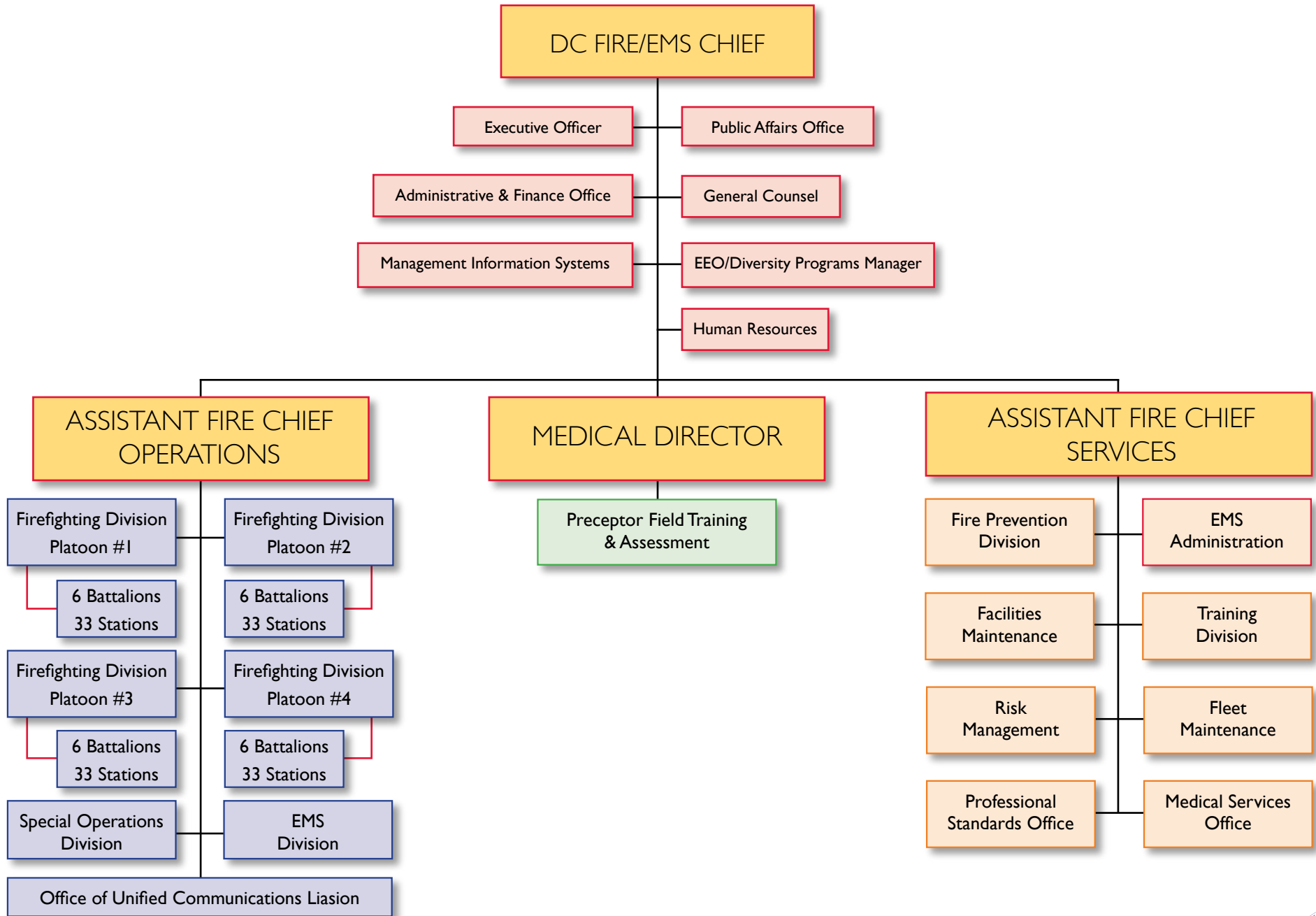
Total Department Incidents*	145,812
Fire/Rescue Incidents	122,654
Fire/Rescue Incidents	30,989
Medical Incidents	91,665
Total Fire/Rescue Apparatus Responses**	154,169
Medical Responses	100,661
Non-Medical Responses	66,820
Total Medical Incidents	114,823
Critical Medical Incidents	58,337
Non-Critical Medical Incidents	56,486
Total EMS Unit Responses	164,933
BLS Unit Responses	73,626
ALS (Medic) Unit Responses	58,914
Paramedic Engine Company Responses	20,764
Rapid Response Unit Responses	6,126
EMS Supervisor Responses	5,503
Total EMS Transports	73,314
ALS Unit Transports	35,575
BLS Unit Transports	37,739

*An Incident is a single emergency situation – for example a fire or a call for medical assistance – regardless of how many vehicles and personnel respond to the scene

** A Response is a Fire/EMS vehicle being dispatched to the scene of an emergency

Organizational Chart

2,036 Full Time Positions in Fiscal Year 2005





Major Accomplishments FY2005

- In September 2005 the DC Fire/EMS Department began to recruit National Registry Certified Paramedics directly into Firefighting Recruit Classes to serve as DC Fire/EMS Firefighter/Paramedics.
- The Department is training interested employees with BLS certification to the ALS level through a 6-month EMT-I/Basic Paramedic training course. Eight members of the first fiscal year 2005 class passed the National Registry Exam on their first attempt, and a second class with 13 students began in September 2005.
- The Department continues to expand the Paramedic Engine Company (PEC) program. For most of fiscal year 2005, DC Fire/EMS had six PECs in service; one in each Battalion. In September 2005, two more were put into service, bringing the Department to eight PECs overall. DC Fire/EMS is working to have 16 PECs in service by the end of 2007.
- DC Fire/EMS implemented an OSHA and EPA compliant Respiratory Protection Plan for all personnel during fiscal year 2005. For the first time, DC Fire/EMS employees are wearing face-pieces and respirators that fully meet OSHA and EPA fit standards. This means increased protection from toxic chemicals and smoke with personnel more likely to be healthy into retirement and better able to provide confident service to people in the District of Columbia.
- The DC Fire/EMS Department has an ALS response time goal of eight-minutes-or-less, dispatch-to-scene 90% of the time for the first arriving paramedic on critical medical calls. DC Fire/EMS met this goal 76.2% of the time during fiscal year 2005. Since 1997, ALS response times have improved by more than 30%.



- During fiscal year 2005 the Medical Director instituted a new field training and assessment program for paramedics and EMTs in the DC Fire/EMS Department. This process is overseen by 18 Preceptors – paramedic level EMS officers – who train, test, evaluate, and supervise actual care in the field by providers in the Fire/EMS system. ALS Providers must pass the Preceptor Field Assessment Program and an oral review with the Medical Director before being released to operate independently in the District of Columbia.
- DC Fire/EMS Fire Inspectors completed more than 29,000 inspections of schools, businesses, residential and government buildings in the District of Columbia during fiscal year 2005. Of 1,684 mandated inspections, 100% were completed within the required timeframes.
- DC Fire/EMS Arson Investigators were instrumental in the identification and ultimate arrest of Mr. Thomas Sweatt who confessed to setting several hundred arson fires in and around the District of Columbia since 1990. Mr. Sweatt was sentenced to life plus 136 years in prison.
- In 2005, 103 DC Fire/EMS personnel completed comprehensive Weapons of Mass Destruction training at the Center for Domestic Preparedness in Anniston, Alabama. Since 2001, 665 Fire/EMS personnel have completed this training and more DC Fire/EMS employees have completed this training than the combined total of trained personnel in most states.
- Six DC Fire/EMS firefighters were awarded the *Firehouse Magazine Heroism Award* for their actions to rescue seven people from an apartment building blaze in October 2004. They were also recognized with Medals of Valor by the International Association of Fire Chiefs – Eastern Division.



DC Fire Station Locations



1st Battalion

Engine 6/Truck 4
Engine 10/Truck 13
Engine 12
Engine 14
Engine 17
Engine 26/Truck 15

4th Battalion

Engine 4
Engine 9/Truck 9
Engine 11/Truck 6
Engine 22/Truck 11
Engine 24

2nd Battalion

Engine 3
Engine 7
Engine 8
Engine 18/Truck 7
Engine 27
Engine 30/Truck 17

5th Battalion

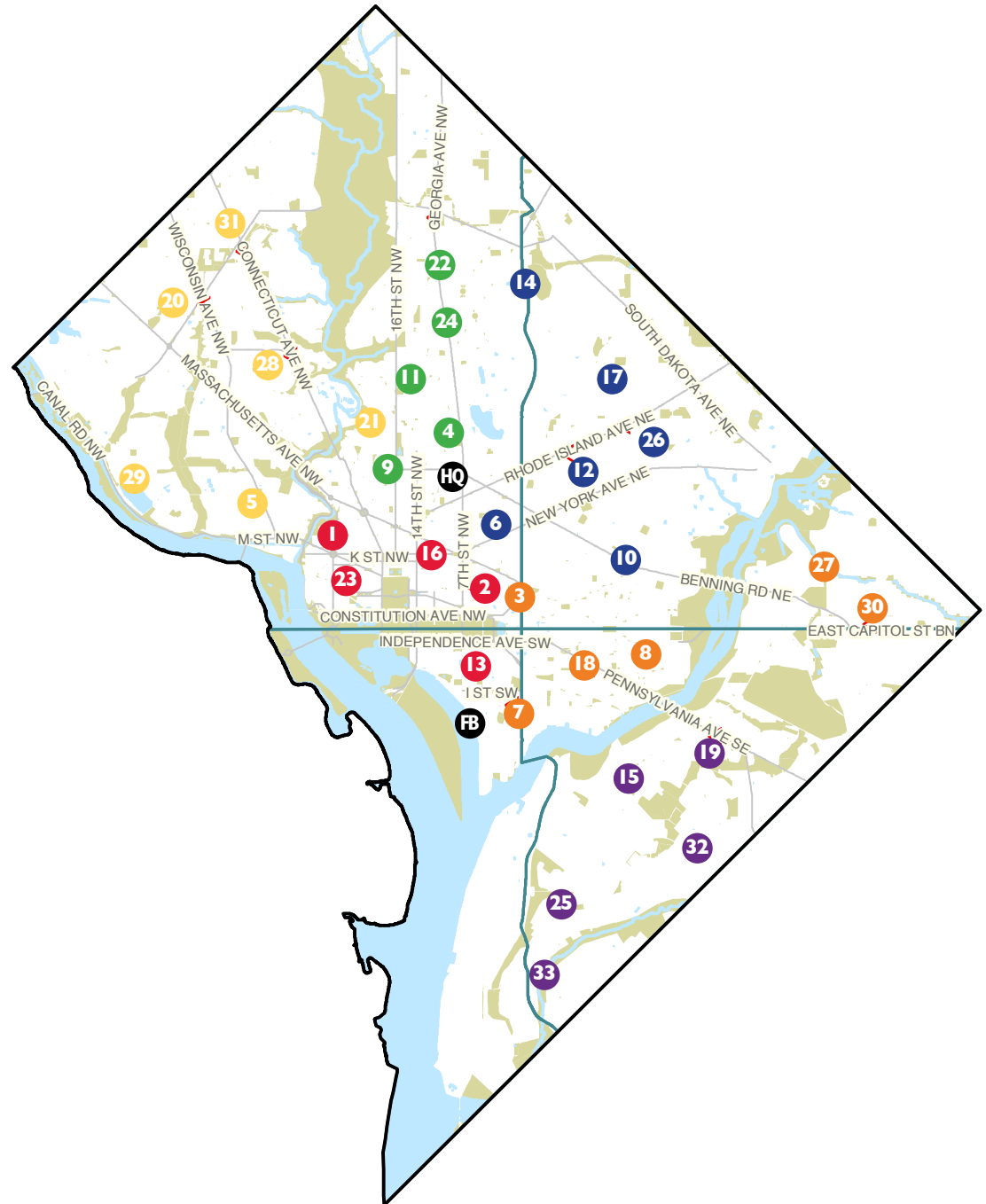
Engine 5
Engine 20/Truck 12
Engine 21
Engine 28/Truck 14
Engine 29/Truck 5
Engine 31

3rd Battalion

Engine 15
Engine 19
Engine 25
Engine 32/Truck 16
Engine 33/Truck 8

6th Battalion

Engine 1/Truck 2
Engine 2
Engine 13/Truck 10
Engine 16/Tower 3
Engine 23





Firefighting & Emergency Medical Services Operations

DC Fire/EMS Department personnel have a strong commitment to service, and are ready to respond at a moment's notice for emergency incidents that range from small fires or minor injuries to the potential dangers of a post-Sept 11 world. On any given day, our first responders might provide emergency medical care and transportation; extinguish fires; mitigate hazardous materials and bomb threat situations; and rescue people who have become trapped. Late in FY2005, 25 members of the department shared their commitment with people living far from the District when they were deployed to the Gulf Coast in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

The **Firefighting Division** is commanded by the Deputy Fire Chief – Firefighting Division. Operations are broken into six battalions, each of which is commanded by a Battalion Fire Chief. The Firefighting Division is scheduled in four platoons, each of which works a 24 hour shift, followed by 72 hours off.

Engine and Truck Companies include all personnel assigned to work on a specific apparatus across all four shifts, or platoons. Each Company has one commanding Captain, and three Lieutenant Platoon commanders. Company officers are responsible for personnel, station maintenance, and 911-response activities.

The **DC Fire/EMS Department** operates **33 Engine Companies**. Engines are staffed with four firefighter/EMTs on each platoon. In addition to fire suppression response, Engine Companies are first responders for most medical calls. Every Engine Company operates as at least a Basic Life Support first response unit and, at the end of fiscal year 2005, the DC Fire/EMS Department had eight Paramedic Engine Companies in service providing Advanced Life Support care. The department is working to have 16 Paramedic Engine Companies in service by the end of 2007. Paramedic Engine Companies are staffed with one firefighter/paramedic and three firefighter/EMTs on each platoon.

The Department operates **16 Truck Companies** which can act as Basic Life Support first responders on medical calls. Trucks are staffed with five firefighter/EMTs on each platoon.

The Firefighting Division staffs **12 Basic Life Support Transport Units** with firefighter/EMTs 24 hours a day.

James Talbert

Deputy Fire Chief
Firefighting Deputy – 1st Platoon

Patrick Johnson

Deputy Fire Chief
Firefighting Deputy – 2nd Platoon

Thomas Herlihy

Deputy Fire Chief
Firefighting Deputy – 3rd Platoon

Kenneth Ellerbe

Deputy Fire Chief
Firefighting Deputy – 4th Platoon

The **EMS Division** is commanded by a Deputy Chief - Operations and medical supervision in the field is provided by five paramedic officers called EMS Supervisors. The EMS Division operates on a four 12-hour shift rotating basis.

The EMS Division staffs **16 Advanced Life Support Transport Units** that provide paramedic level care and transport for critically sick or injured people in the District of Columbia and **6 Basic Life Support Transport Units**.

Gregory Blalock

EMS Deputy Chief - Operations



Engine 6 - Truck 4 - Medic 6 - Amb. 6



Engine 14 - Medic 14



Engine 10 - Truck 13 - Medic 10

1st Battalion

Engine 17 (under renovation)



Engine 12 - Amb. 12



Engine 26 - Truck 15 - Medic 26





DC Fire/EMS Paramedic Engine Company 10 – The Dime - was number 2 of 306 career fire departments surveyed for *Busiest Engine Company* in Firehouse Magazine's 25th Annual National Run Survey - 2005. With 7,017 responses Engine 10 averaged 20 runs a day and can boast 934 more runs in 2005 than the 3rd company on the survey, Los Angeles County's Engine 33.

Engine 6/Truck 4 – 1300 New Jersey Ave., NW
Engine 6, Truck 4, Medic 6, Ambulance 6

Responses in FY2005:

Engine 6	6,180
Truck 4	2,354
Medic 6	3,894
Ambulance 6	5,852

Engine 10/Truck 13 – 1342 Florida Ave., NE
Paramedic Engine Company -10, Truck 13, Medic 10

Responses in FY2005:

Engine 10	7,017
Truck 13	2,554
Medic 10	4,080

Engine 12 – 2225 – 5th St., NE
Engine 12, Ambulance 12
Office of the 1st Battalion Chief

Responses in FY2005:

1 st Battalion Chief	805
Engine 12	3,346
Ambulance 12	5,159

Engine 14 – 4801 North Capitol St., NE
Engine 14, Medic 14

Responses in FY2005:

Engine 14	3,138
Medic 14	3,074

Engine 17 – 1227 Monroe St., NE
Closed for renovation during FY2005.
Engine 17 shared quarters with Engine 14

Responses in FY2005:

Engine 17	2,679
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Engine 26/Truck 15 – 1340 Rhode Island Ave., NE
Engine 26, Truck 15, Medic 26

Responses in FY2005:

Engine 26	4,741
Truck 15	1,582
Medic 26	3,501



Engine 7 - Amb. 7



Engine 18 - Truck 7 - Amb. 18



Engine 27 - Medic 27 - Amb. 27



Engine 3 - Medic 3

2nd Battalion

Engine 8 - Medic 8 - Amb. 8 - EMS 2



Engine 30 - Truck 17 - Medic 30 - Amb. 30





Companies of the 2nd Battalion had more runs than any other battalion in 2005 with 62,563 responses.

DC Fire/EMS Engine Company 3 traces its roots back to 1804 and the formation of the volunteer Columbia Company. First due at the US Capitol Building, they have been protecting the Capitol and people who work and live on Capitol Hill for more than 200 years. In 1871 Columbia Company became Engine Company 3 of the newly professional District of Columbia Fire Department. Today, they call a 1916 firehouse home.

Engine 3 – 439 New Jersey Ave., NW
Engine 3, Medic 3

Responses in FY2005:

Engine 3	4,303
Medic 3	4,311

Engine 7 – 1101 Half St SW
Engine 7, Ambulance 7

Responses in FY2005:

Engine 7	3,067
Ambulance 7	2,366

Engine 8 – 1520 C St., SE
Engine 8, Medic 8, Ambulance 8, EMS 2, Air 2
Office of the 2nd Battalion Chief

Responses in FY2005:

2 nd Battalion Chief	1,293
Engine 8	3,450
Medic 8	3,729
Ambulance 8	4,828
EMS 2	1,215

Engine 18/Truck 7 – 414-8th St., SE
Engine 18, Truck 7, Ambulance 18

Responses in FY2005:

Engine 18	3,351
Truck 7	1,732
Ambulance 18	2,566

Engine 27 – 4201 Minnesota Ave., NE
Engine 27, Medic 27, Ambulance 27

Responses in FY2005:

Engine 27	5,073
Medic 27	1,649
Ambulance 27	4,069

Engine 30/Truck 17 – 50 – 49th St., NE
Paramedic Engine Company 30, Truck 17, Medic 30, Ambulance 30

Responses in FY2005:

Engine 30	5,885
Truck 17	2,395
Medic 30	3,137
Ambulance 30	4,144



Engine 15 - Medic 15 - Amb. 15



Engine 19 - Medic 19 - Amb. 19



Engine 33 - Truck 8 - Amb. 33

3rd Battalion

Engine 25 - Medic 25 - Amb. 25



Engine 32 - Truck 16 - Amb. 32 - EMS 3





In January 2005 units responded for a fire in a high-rise apartment building on Good Hope Road, SE in the 3rd Battalion. This three-alarm fire was caused by a major natural gas leak and exploded into flames. Hundreds of residents were trapped above the fire, two people were severely injured, a child was fatally burned, and a massive rescue effort was mobilized for a firefighter who fell 35 feet down an elevator shaft. For their heroic efforts on this fire, the department awarded two companies Unit Commendations, three firefighters were awarded Bronze Bars and the Eastern Division of the International Association of Fire Chiefs awarded four firefighters their Medals of Valor – 2005.

Engine 15 – 2101 – 14th St., SE
Engine 15, Medic 15, Ambulance 15
Office of the 3rd Battalion Chief

Responses in FY2005:

3 rd Battalion Chief	1,233
Engine 15	5,376
Medic 15	3,802
Ambulance 15	2,757

Engine 19 – 2813 Pennsylvania Ave., SE
Engine 19, Medic 19, Ambulance 19

Responses in FY2005:

Engine 19	4,475
Medic 19	3,547
Ambulance 19	2,275

Engine 25 – 3203 MLK Jr Ave., SE
Paramedic Engine Company 25, Medic 25,
Ambulance 25

Responses in FY2005:

Engine 25	4,433
Medic 25	2,429
Ambulance 25	4,005

Engine 32/Truck 16 – 2425 Irving St., SE
Engine 32, Truck 16, Ambulance 32, EMS 3

Responses in FY2005:

Engine 32	3,579
Truck 16	1,699
Ambulance 32	3,373
EMS 3	1,296

Engine 33/Truck 8 – 101 Atlantic St., SE
Engine 33, Truck 8, Ambulance 33

Responses in FY2005:

Engine 33	4,291
Truck 8	1,104
Ambulance 33	1,966



Engine 4 - Medic 4 - Safety Officer



Engine 9 - Truck 9 - Medic 9

4th Battalion



Engine 11 - Truck 6 - Medic 11 - EMS 4/5



Engine 22 - Truck 11 - Amb. 22



Engine 24 - Medic 24



In December 2004, DC Fire/EMS units were called in the middle of the night to a rowhouse fire on Randolph Street, NW in the 4th Battalion. Fire extended rapidly and one person had already jumped from a second story window when firefighters arrived. After forcing entry they conducted an exhaustive search, finally locating two unconscious children, ages one and two, in the rear of the second floor. For their heroic efforts to locate and rescue two small children from a rapidly advancing fire in dangerous conditions the department awarded Commendations to two firefighters and two were awarded the Bronze Bar.

Engine 4 – 2531 Sherman Ave., NW
Engine 4, Medic 4, Safety Officer, Air 1

Responses in FY2005:

Engine 4	4,316
Medic 4	1,995
Safety Officer	471

Engine 9/Truck 9 – 1617 U Street, NW
Engine Company 9, Truck 9, Medic 9

Responses in FY2005:

Engine 9	4,105
Truck 9	1,550
Medic 9	3,930

Engine 11/Truck 6 – 3420 – 14th St., NW
Engine 11, Truck 6, Medic 11, EMS 4/5
Office of the 4th Battalion Chief

Responses in FY2005:

4 th Battalion Chief	920
Engine 11	5,899
Truck 6	2,048
Medic 11	3,920
EMS 4/5	1,315

Engine 22/Truck 11 – 5760 Georgia Ave., NW
Paramedic Engine Company 22, Truck 11, Ambulance 22

Responses in FY2005:

Engine 22	4,018
Truck 11	1,447
Ambulance 22	4,980

Engine 24 – 5101 Georgia Ave., NW
Engine 24, Rescue Squad 2, Medic 24

Responses in FY2005:

Engine 24	3,479
Medic 24	3,046



Engine 5



Engine 28 - Truck 14



Engine 20 - Truck 12 - Amb. 20 (under renovation)

5th Battalion



Engine 21



Engine 29 - Truck 5



Engine 31 - Medic 31



In November 2004, 5th Battalion units were faced with mitigating the crash of two subway trains at the Woodley Park Metro Station on Connecticut Avenue when a Metro work train rolled backward and collided with another train. That train was stopped in the station loading passengers. The force of the crash was so great, that the end car of the work train was forced up into the air and hit the top of the Metro atrium. The situation was grim. But first responders mitigated the incident quickly and with great professionalism. Nearly 20 people were transported to the hospital with what were called minor injuries.

Engine 5 – 3412 Dent Place, NW
Engine 5

Responses in FY2005:

Engine 5	1,904
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Engine 20/Truck 12 – 4300 Wisconsin Ave., NW
Engine 20, Truck 12, Ambulance 20
Closed for renovation during FY2005. Apparatus shared quarters with Engine 31 and Engine 21

Responses in FY2005:

Engine 20	1,979
Truck 12	929
Ambulance 20	5,120

Engine 21 – 1763 Lanier Place, NW
Engine 21, Ambulance 20

Responses in FY2005:

Engine 21	2,764
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Engine 28/Truck 14 – 3522 Connecticut Ave., NW
Engine 28, Truck 14, Medic 31
Office of the 5th Battalion Chief

Responses in FY2005:

5 th Battalion Chief	723
Engine 28	2,094
Truck 14	803

Engine 29/Truck 5 – 4811 MacArthur Blvd., NW
Engine 29, Truck 5

Responses in FY2005:

Engine 29	1,000
Truck 5	481

Engine 31 – 4930 Connecticut Ave., NW
Paramedic Engine Company 31, Medic 31

Responses in FY2005:

Engine 31	2,317
Medic 31	2,684



Engine 13 - Truck 10 - Amb. 13



Engine 16 - Tower 3 - Amb. 16



Engine 23 - Amb. 23

6th Battalion

Engine 1 - Truck 2 - Medic 1



Engine 2 - Amb. 2 - EMS 1/6





Units in the 6th Battalion serve a varied community and a wide range of emergency situations. Located in the downtown area, the 6th Battalion is densely populated during the day with commuters and other visitors to the District of Columbia. Units in the 6th Battalion respond for emergency situations in homes, apartment buildings, office buildings, hotels, the Potomac River, museums along the National Mall, and the White House.

Engine 1/Truck 2 – 2225 M St., NW

Engine 1, Truck 2, Medic 1

Responses in FY2005:

Engine 1	3,618
Truck 2	1,893
Medic 1	2,860

Engine 2 – 500 F St., NW

Engine 2, EMS 1/6
Office of the Firefighting Deputy

Responses in FY2005:

Engine 2	4,119
Ambulance 2	4,605
EMS 1/6	1,081

Engine 13/Truck 10 – 450 – 6th St., NW

Engine 13, Truck 10, Ambulance 13

Responses in FY2005:

Engine 13	2,759
Truck 10	1,348
Ambulance 13	133

Engine 16/Tower 3 – 1018 – 13th St., NW

Paramedic Engine Company 16, Tower 3,
Ambulance 16
Office of the 6th Battalion Chief

Responses in FY2005:

6 th Battalion Chief	1,057
Engine 16	5,748
Tower 3	2,933
Ambulance 16	5,851

Engine 23 – 2119 G St., NW

Engine 23, Ambulance 23

Responses in FY2005:

Engine 23	2,596
Ambulance 23	2,487



Special Operations Division

The Special Operations Division handles all hazardous materials, technical rescue, federal protection, homeland security, and rail transportation events for the DC Fire/EMS Department. All members of the Special Operations Division meet or exceed the NFPA standards for technical rescue.

Leadership of the Special Operations Division is one Deputy Fire Chief working a 40-hour week. In January 2005, DC Fire/EMS expanded from one Battalion Fire Chief in Special Operations working a 40-hour week to four Battalion Chiefs each assigned to one 24-hour platoon.

Front line apparatus in the Special Operations Division include:

- 3 Heavy Rescue Squads
- 1 Hazardous Materials Unit
- The Fireboat Company
- 2 Rapid Response ALS Units

The Heavy Rescue Squads respond on fire suppression calls and technical rescue calls. While all personnel assigned to the squads maintain the same level of training in the various technical rescue disciplines – high/low angle, confined space, trench/collapse, and swift water - each Squad is outfitted with specialized equipment and responds on specific types of calls. Rescue Squad 1 is dispatched for high- and low-angle rope rescues. Rescue Squad 2 responds for confined space rescue; for example manholes, storage tanks, sewers, silos, or vaults. Rescue Squad 3 responds for urban search and rescue under collapse circumstances.



There are more than 300 members of the DC Fire/EMS Department who have Hazardous Materials Technician (Level III) certification and they are assigned to various companies throughout the department. Duties of the Hazardous Materials Task Force include rescue, isolation, entry, product identification, decontamination, and mitigation of haz mat incidents.

Lawrence Schultz

Deputy Fire Chief
Special Operations

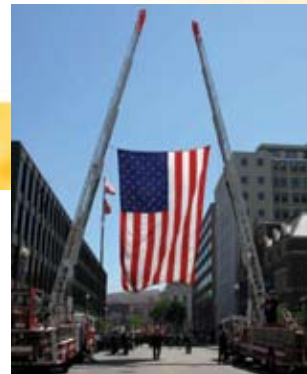
Special Operations Responses in Fiscal Year 2005:

Special Operations Deputy Fire Chief	123
Special Operations Battalion Fire Chief	481
Rescue Squad 1 (at Engine 2: 500 F St., NW)	2,850
Rescue Squad 2 (at Engine 24: 5101 Georgia Ave., NW)	1,718
Rescue Squad 3 (at Engine 15: 2101-14 th St., SE)	1,856
Hazardous Materials Unit (at Engine 12: 2225-5 th St., NE)	709
Rapid Response 12 (at Engine 12: 2225-5 th St., NE)	3,574
Rapid Response 2 (at Engine 2: 500 F St., NW)	2,212





Portraits in Action





Portraits in Action





Fire Prevention Division

The Fire Prevention Division, under direction of the Fire Marshal, is engaged in a variety of activities including fire code compliance inspections, source & cause investigations of fires, and public education activities for fire prevention. The Division operates several programs related to safety and education such as fire safety education sessions, free smoke alarms, operating a fire safe house, and providing counseling for juvenile fire setters.

Richard Fleming

Deputy Fire Chief
Fire Marshal



Code Enforcement Section

Code Enforcement Inspections – FY2005

Total number of inspections	29,072
Total number of complete buildings	12,044

Types of Occupancies Inspected:

Public School Inspections	596
Private School Inspections	298
Charter School Inspections	122
College/University Inspections	36
Hospital Inspections	43
Nursing Home Inspections	53
Intermediate Care Facility Inspections	317
Community Residential Facility Inspections	760
Day Care Center Inspections	535
Correctional Facility Inspections	13
Public Assembly Occupancy Inspections	961
Residential Occupancy Inspections	9,738
Hotel Inspections	170
Business Occupancy Inspections	9,868
Mercantile/Service Station Inspections	273
Fireworks Stand Inspections	182
Public Place Inspections	1,350
Other Occupancy Inspections	3,757

Code Violations

Total number of Code Violations observed	23,018
Total number of Code Violations abated	15,622

Other Responsibilities

Fire Evacuation Plans Reviewed	295
Fire Drills Supervised	34
Fireworks Displays	9
Pyrotechnics Displays	100
Special Events (festivals, etc)	135



Fire/Arson Investigation Section

Fire Scenes Investigated – FY2005

Structure Fires	615
Vehicle Fires	119
Other Fires	29

Fire Causes – Structure Fires – FY2005

Arson	107*
Incendiary	198
Accidental	368
Natural	3
Undetermined	46

* Arson broken out as separate category from Incendiary/Arson in January 2005

Fire Causes – Vehicle Fires – FY2005

Incendiary	94
Accidental	19
Natural	0
Undetermined	6

Fire Causes – Other Fires – FY2005

Incendiary	22
Accidental	7
Natural	0
Undetermined	3

Arrests

Arson	51
Other Offenses	2

DC Fire/EMS Arson Investigators were instrumental in the identification and ultimate arrest of Thomas Sweatt who confessed to setting several hundred arson fires in and around the District of Columbia since 1990. Mr. Sweatt was sentenced to life plus 136 years in prison.

Public Outreach/Education Section

Fire Safety Presentations – FY2005

Total number of Fire Safety Presentations	279
Total number of people	16,624
Fire Safe House Events	27
Fire Extinguisher Training Sessions	10
Smoke Alarms Given Away	981

The Fire Prevention Division sponsored the 3rd Annual Fire Safety Olympics in August 2005. Young people from around the District compete in events designed to teach fire safety concepts.



Training Division

The DC Fire/EMS Department's premiere training division offers basic training in fire suppression and emergency medical response for new firefighter/EMT recruits, and professional development training to meet various NFPA standards for our personnel.



Firefighter/EMT and Paramedic/Firefighter recruits complete an intense 20-week training program that includes practical firefighting skills, EMT certification, and introductions to fire investigation and hazardous materials response. All recruits train in both firefighting and emergency medical service and serve as all-hazards first responders.

National Registry Certified Paramedics who join the DC Fire/EMS Department complete reciprocity training in District of Columbia pre-hospital protocols before being certified by the DC Department of Health.

The Training Academy features a burn tower; a flash over simulator; a driver training course, and state of the art classroom facilities in our new three-year-old training building. A driving simulator with an engine cab, truck tiller, and later an ambulance cab is expected to be ready in fiscal year 2007. And, plans are moving forward to construct a class-A burn building.

Among other training coordinated by the Training Division is experience in the flashover simulator for all personnel, hazardous materials technician and awareness training, rope rescue skills, swift water rescue, mass casualty care, Advanced Medical Life Support, and Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support.

The Training Academy also operates a special Cadet Program annually for 20-30 District of Columbia youths who graduate after a full year of training as firefighter/EMTs. The cadet graduates then have the opportunity to join DC Fire/EMS and more than 150 former cadets have been employed by the department through this program.

A new six-month EMT-I, or basic paramedic, training program in conjunction with The George Washington University was initiated during fiscal year 2005, and the first class graduated in July 2005. Interested and qualified Fire/EMS employees are given the opportunity to raise their EMS certifications to the



ALS level. Eight members of the first class passed the National Registry Exam on their first attempt, and a second class of thirteen started their course work in September 2005.

Four firefighter/EMT recruit classes completed their training during fiscal year 2005, four EMS reciprocity classes, one EMT-I class, and Cadet Class I I.

Alfred Jeffery III

A/Deputy Fire Chief
Training Director

Graduating Classes - FY2005

Firefighter/EMT Recruit Class 338	11/19/2004
Firefighter/EMT Recruit Class 339	11/19/2004
Firefighter/EMT Recruit Class 340	3/11/2005
Firefighter/EMT Recruit Class 341	9/16/2005
EMS Reciprocity Class 2004-7R	11/19/2004
EMS Reciprocity Class 2005-9R	9/16/2005
EMS Reciprocity Class 2005-11R	9/16/2005
EMS Reciprocity Class 2005-12R	9/16/2005
EMT-I Class	7/22/2005
Cadet Class I I	9/26/2005



DC Fire/EMS in the Community

The DC Fire/EMS Department has a strong tradition of community outreach. In fiscal year 2005, Fire/EMS personnel participated in nearly 1,000 community outreach events. In addition to fire safety education events, members of the department visited schools, certified citizens in CPR, helped the DC Public Schools make sure that flagpoles for the American flag are in good working order, helped young people with their reading skills, and collected thousands of toys during the US Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Campaign.

Selection of Major Outreach Events – FY2005

- Hundreds of visits to block parties, community health fairs, Citizens Association meetings, Advisory Neighborhood Commission meetings, schools, day care centers, and senior citizen residences.
- DC Department of Parks & Recreation Health & Fitness Fair
- US Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Campaign
- Project Harvest Thanksgiving Food Drive
- Fox5 Stuff-a-Truck Food Drive
- Sursum Corda/NWI Community Celebration
- Latino Public Safety Forum
- Brentwood Recreation Center Grand Opening
- Hillcrest Recreation Center Grand Opening
- 3rd Annual Fire Safety Olympics
- National Night Out – 2005
- National Memorial Day Parade 2005
- Emancipation Day Activities
- Fire/EMS Honor Guard in Pre-Game Ceremony at the 1st Home Game of the Washington Nationals Baseball Team Inaugural Season
- NBC4 Health & Fitness Expo





- Elderfest 2005
- Reading to students at Friendship Edison Charter School
- Repaired the flagpoles at 76 Public Schools in the District of Columbia
- Training with Paul Public Charter School students in their "Preparing Residents in Disasters & Emergencies" (PRIDE) Program

Outreach in Fiscal Year 2005

Outreach Events	981
School visits	241
Community Events/Fairs	260
Home Safety Inspections	54
Other events	426
Citizens trained in CPR	1,223
Citizens in fire safety presentations	16,609
Smoke Alarms given away	981





Portraits in Action





Portraits in Action





Portraits in Action







FIRE/EMS
DRIVER
TEAM A
TEAM B
TEAM C
TEAM D

RESCUE SQUAD 2
DRIVER
TEAM A
TEAM B
TEAM C
TEAM D

ENGINE COMPANY 24
DRIVER
OFFICER
LINEDMAN
LAYDOWN

RESCUE SQUAD 2
DRIVER
TEAM A
TEAM B
TEAM C
TEAM D

RESCUE SQUAD 2
DRIVER
TEAM A
TEAM B
TEAM C
TEAM D

FIRE/EMS
DRIVER
TEAM A
TEAM B
TEAM C
TEAM D

CAUTION

SS